

SEQUOIA FOUNDATION

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November 27, 2012

Placer County Board of Supervisors 175 Fulweiler Avenue Auburn, CA 95603

ATTN: Jennifer Montgomery, Kirk Uhler, Jack Duran, Robert Weygandt, Jim Holmes

RE: Proposed Cabin Creek Biomass Energy Facility in Placer County

Dear Placer County Board of Supervisors:

The Sequoia Foundation (SF), with grant funding from the Health Impact Project and in strong partnership with the Placer County Departments of Planning and Health & Human Services, performed a health impact assessment (HIA) of the proposed Cabin Creek Biomass Energy Facility. The California Department of Public Health also provided technical assistance in this assessment. The Community Collaborative of Tahoe Truckee facilitated community stakeholder input through three community meetings.

We submit the attached HIA to help inform your decision regarding the conditional use permit for the biomass energy facility. As you will see from the report, both positive and negative health impacts were assessed. Based on priorities voiced by community stakeholders, SF analyzed health impacts associated with air quality, wildfires, greenhouse gas emissions, water quality, noise, and economic and energy security. Overall, the project should positively impact community health, enabling improvements in regional air quality and reductions in wildfire risk. Other health impacts related to greenhouse gas emissions, water quality, noise, and economic and energy security are mixed and are minor in comparison. In light of the assessment, we've also included recommendations intended to enhance community health protections and ease community anxieties related to the project.

We urge you to consider the findings of this report as you move forward with the proposed project. We believe this HIA represents an informative and valuable aid in making decisions that address a full range of health and well-being concerns of the community.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have about our assessment. You can reach me at john@sequoiafoundation.org or 858.459.0434. Please also cc Kristen Nelson with any emails (Kristen@sequoiafoundation.org). Thank you for your time.

Sincerely.

John Petterson, PhD

Director

Sequoia Foundation